

### **REMARKS**

Applicants thank the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9 and 21 are now present in this application. By this Amendment, claims 10 and 17 have been canceled, claims 1, 3 and 7 have been amended, and claim 21 has been added.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter recited in dependent claims 10 and 17. Accordingly, comments will be presented in regards to the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) (i.e., the other rejections are moot).

The Office Action rejects dependent claim 10 and 17 based in large part on Faccioli, which differs significantly from the claimed invention. Faccioli does not disclose a grooved lid or a grooved oven wall or a grooved oven door, for example. In fact, Faccioli does not even show the oven wall with respect to which its gasket 1 is used. All that Faccioli discloses is that projections 21 are bent as hooks for insertion in holes in the oven wall, where the oven wall is not shown nor are the holes shown.

Faccioli has no disclosure of a lid with an insertion groove and a plurality of inclined protrusions formed on the inside of a groove, as recited. Accordingly, Faccioli cannot serve as a proper basis to reject the claimed invention.

Nor is there any disclosure of a structure wherein the gasket is fitted by slide insertion. Faccioli actually bends its elements 20 around the gasket 1 (col. 3, line 49 to col. 4, line 19), which teaches away from the claimed invention. That is, the protruding element in Faccioli is bent to form a hook, which is inserted in the corresponding holes provided on the oven wall (see column 3, lines 49-61).

Accordingly, claim 1 patentably defines over this applied art of record.

In addition, new claim 21 has been added to set forth the invention in a varying scope, and Applicants respectfully submit the new claim is supported by the originally filed Specification.

Applicants respectfully submit that Beare does not disclose the invention recited in claim 21. Claim 21 recites a combination of features including a detergent storing assembly located in the top plate opening for storing the detergent and providing the detergent to the tub on washing, the detergent storing assembly including a detergent box provided for storing the detergent, and a lid part fixed to a topside of the detergent box for opening/closing the detergent box; a cabinet having the tub installed inside thereof, wherein the detergent box is positioned within a loading hole formed at one side of the cabinet and the lid part is mounted on a rim of the loading hole; and a packing means located on a bottom surface of the lid part sealing a gap between the lid part and the top plate to prevent external water from flowing in the cabinet.

Beare's lid part (26 or 24 and 26) is not fixed to a topside of detergent box 30, as positively recited in claim 1. In fact, it appears that Beare's structure differs substantially from Applicants'

claimed structure. For example, Beare's lid part (26 or 24 and 26) is fixed to the washer cabinet top 10 and Beare's detergent box 30 is separately fixed to the washer cabinet top 10.

Additionally, Beare's gasket, which is disclosed as being positioned and retained by ridges 40, which are located on the upper surface of top wall 34 of lower dispenser body 30 (col. 3, lines 44-68), is located completely beneath the surface of cabinet top 10 and is most definitely not, as positively recited in claim 1, a packing means located on a bottom surface of the lid part sealing a gap between the lid part and the top plate to prevent external water from flowing in the cabinet. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted new independent claim 21 is also allowable.

Faccoli also does not teach or suggest these features.

### **CONCLUSION**

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

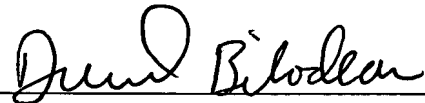
If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone David A. Bilodeau, Registration No. 42,325, at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: November 16, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

**David A. Bilodeau**  
Registration No. 42,325

James T. Eller, Jr.  
Reg. No.: 39,538  
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP  
P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747  
Telephone: (703) 205-8000  
Attorney for Applicants